

DECISION



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

29991

FILE: B-216767; B-216806 **DATE:** December 12, 1984

MATTER OF: Universal Parts and Services, Inc.

DIGEST:

GAO will not consider a protest when, regardless of the outcome, the protester is not in line for contract award.

Universal Parts and Services, Inc. protests the failure of the Department of the Air Force to consider its proposals submitted under Request for Proposals (RFP) Nos. F34601-84-R-0256 and F34601-84-R-45199 for the repair of J75 and TF33 jet engine vanes and shrouds.

Each of the RFP's indicated that only listed sources would be considered for award unless satisfactory evidence regarding an unlisted offeror's experience was submitted and approved in time to meet the government's requirement. Universal was not a listed source. It submitted evidence of its experience with its proposals and requested approval. When Universal perceived a lack of activity regarding this request, it filed these protests.

The Air Force reports that it intends to award contracts based on price and that Universal is the second low offeror under RFP No. F34601-84-R-0256 and the third low offeror under RFP No. F34601-84-R-45199. Under these circumstances, the protests are academic since Universal would not receive award under either RFP regardless of its ability to qualify as a source. See Somers Construction Co., B-209843.2, Oct. 25, 1983, 83-2 CPD ¶ 490.

Universal remains concerned that, unless steps are taken now, it will not be a qualified source on future procurements. Since the Air Force has a duty to maximize competition, we would expect that the Air Force will promptly provide Universal with an appropriate opportunity to demonstrate its qualifications.

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The protests are dismissed.

Harry R. Van Cleve
Harry R. Van Cleve
General Counsel